

Docket No. 04-233
October 14, 2004

To Whom it May Concern:

It has come to my attention from several sources that an entity known as Sinclair Broadcasting, which is purportedly one of if not the largest owner of media outlets in the United States, has issued a mandate forcing all of its stations to preempt regular programming and air what has been variously described as a pro-Bush or anti-Kerry "documentary" only days before this year's presidential election. I question the legality of such a maneuver, and if true, suggest it is a prime example of the dangers of media consolidation that has come to fruition under the tutelage of Secretary of State Powell's son.

I respectfully request that the FCC investigate these allegations to determine whether Sinclair, which uses the public airwaves free of charge and with the obligation to serve the public interest, can lawfully air this reputed one-sided programming without providing an "equal" opportunity for the airing of the opposing political position. Such an investigation is absolutely necessary if this country intends to maintain the integrity for its elections in the world's eye. If we allow large corporations to use public property for their own personal and political advantage without any semblance of accountability, our country's elections fare no better on the world stage than the "Flintstone"-like elections just held in Afghanistan.

These actions demonstrate the dangers of weakening media ownership rules. Please help to preserve the integrity of the United States of America and ensure that one corporation is not able to determine the fate of this great country. A thorough investigation of these charges by the FCC is fully warranted. If it fails to do so, it fails the United States of America and everything for which I believe it stands.